



**The House of Representatives
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
April 12, 2006

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**Legislature Partners with LOST Actors to Host
"THE CLOTHES OFF OUR BACKS" Collection Drive
for the Sex Abuse Treatment Center**

Honolulu. Representative Jon Riki Karamatsu and Honorary Co-Chair Brittany Perrineau announced that LOST actors Harold Perrineau and Daniel Dae Kim will be helping with **"The Clothes Off Our Backs" Collection Drive** for clients served by the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC). The drive will be held Wednesday, April 12, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon in State Capitol Conference Room 423. The drive will collect used and new clothing, stuffed animals, reading materials and coffee mugs for survivors of sex abuse and sex assault.

Ms. Perrineau, actress and wife of Harold Perrineau who plays Michael Dawson on LOST, became the Honorary Co-Chair when Representative Karamatsu learned of her advocacy of programs assisting victims of sex abuse and domestic violence. She volunteered to recruit available cast members to assist in the drive, as she had done in previous efforts to help raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

"Experiences in my own life have led me to believe that sincere acts of kindness, whatever their size or value, do make a difference," remarked Perrineau. "Although a new outfit or stuffed animal will not cure someone's pain, it really may help that person feel comforted, and worthy of love and compassion. As a survivor of abuse, I got it. And so will they."

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"Organizations, such as the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, provide immediate response to help survivors of sexual assault recover, " said Rep. Karamatsu, who is sponsoring the drive in conjunction with the Women's Legislative Caucus. "We are coordinating the effort with legislative offices during Sex Assault Awareness Month to provide survivors with clothes, stuffed animals and mugs to give them a little comfort in such a difficult situation. I want sexual survivors to know that they are in our hearts."

"At the Sex Abuse Treatment Center we have so many needs, including the items for the Collection Drive. We are very grateful to the organizers of this event and appreciate all their support," added Adriana Ramelli, Executive Director of SATC.

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